

Express Mail Label: EV 139498655 US
Date of Deposit: June 13, 2002

Attorney Docket No. 15966,609
(CURA-109)

#14/B
DMT
7-9-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Burgess *et al.*
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/730,617 EXAMINER: Pamela G. Holbrook
FILING DATE: December 5, 2000 ART UNIT: 1647
FOR: NOVEL PROTEINS AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THE SAME

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

JUN 24 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as set forth below.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 4-55.

Replace pending claims 1-3 with the following amended claims:

Priority
12/6/99

1-3 Burgess,
56-68 et al

1. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

B1 2. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of a variant of SEQ ID NO:4.

3. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 2, wherein said variant comprises an amino acid sequence that is the translation of a nucleic acid sequence differing by a single nucleotide from the nucleic acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:3.

Add the following new claims:

B2 56. (New) The polypeptide of claim 2, wherein no more than 10% of the amino acid residues of said polypeptide differ from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.